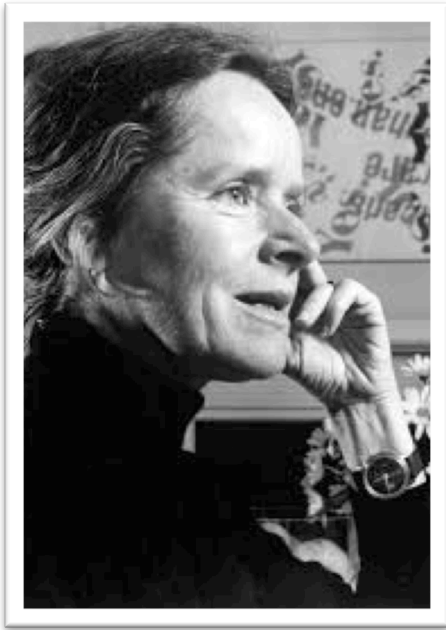


LESSON PLAN

AT-HOME ART PROJECT: Words and Images

INSTRUCTIONS



INSPIRATION ARTIST:

Corita Kent (1918-1986)

Known for her engaging combinations of text and image, Corita Kent was a groundbreaking figure in the Los Angeles art world of the 1960s.

Her own work, characterized by striking combinations of bold graphics and poignant texts, drew upon her experience living as a nun and an activist in Los Angeles during the 1960s. Her serigraphs speak in the language of Pop art, with words and images borrowed from everyday sources—advertisements and street signs, Bible passages and contemporary song lyrics.

Often commenting on the social issues that defined this tumultuous period, including the Vietnam War and racial injustice, her dynamic images continue to resonate with contemporary viewers.

“Creativity belongs to the artist in each of us. To create means to relate. The root meaning of the word art is 'to fit together' and we all do this every day.”

– Corita Kent



Love is Hard Work, 1985
Serigraph
Text: Love is hard work



Dancing Star '82, 1982
Serigraph
Text: You must carry a chaos within you, to give birth to a dancing star, Nietzsche



In that they may have life, 1964
Serigraph

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MATERIALS NEEDED FROM HOME:

- Pen or Sharpie (any color)
- Crayons or Colored Pencils or Markers (any colors)
- Blank Piece of Paper (any size/any light color)
- Optional: Scissors
- Optional: Magazines/ Coupons/ Mailers
- Optional: Glue Stick or Glue Bottle

ART PROJECT DESCRIPTION: Artists will create their own bold poster combining inspiring word(s) and images in the style of artist Corita Kent.

PROMPT QUESTIONS:

1. Do you have a word that inspires you? Do you have a phrase that you have said or that you have heard someone say that you use as inspiration?
2. Does art always have to be realistic and detailed? Can we share meaning and feeling with very simple images and very few words?
3. How do some words and styles of art continue to have meaning for the viewer long after the artist has created it?

ART MAKING PROCESS:

Step 1:

Think about a word or a phrase that inspires you. It can be something you say or that you have heard someone else say. Once you have chosen the word or phrase, think of a symbol (a thing that represents or stands for something else) that would most clearly and simply give the meaning of your word(s). (Examples of symbols are hearts, rainbows, owls, the sun, stars, raindrops, trees, etc.)

Step 2:

Decide if you want to use your paper horizontally or vertically and choose where on your page you want your word(s). Make sure you give yourself plenty of room to write if you are choosing a long phrase. Using your pen, write the word(s) on your paper using your normal handwriting. For one word, write it big! After you have written it you will draw over the lines with your pen and make the lettering thicker and wider. For a phrase use smaller letters and decide after you have written them if you want to draw over the lines again and make them a little bit thicker.

Step 3:

Using any coloring tools, you have, draw your symbol(s) above your word. It should be a simple and bold drawing and should not be very detailed. *Option- you can use scissors and magazines/coupons/fliers to cut out and glue a symbol instead of, or in addition, to drawing at this point.

Step 4:

Color your symbol as brightly as possible and feel free to add more thickness to your word if you want to create a strong balance between your text(word) and image(symbol).

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POST PROJECT PROMPT QUESTIONS:

1. When you look at your artwork does the symbol give you the same feeling as the word(s)? How does a symbol reinforce a meaning?
2. What took longer- thinking of the word(s) and symbol(s) or writing the word(s) and drawing the symbol(s)? Taking time to think of ideas is an important step in the art making process!

EXTRA FUN:

- Do several posters using different words and symbols. Put them up around your room to inspire you or put them up in your windows or around your house to inspire others when they see them.
- If you have sidewalk chalk you can create your artwork outside on the sidewalk and inspire anyone who walks over it!

EXAMPLES:



SOURCES:

<https://hammer.ucla.edu/collections/grunwald-center-collection/corita-kent>

http://www.art-quotes.com/auth_search.php?authid=2596#.XrmH86hKh9A

<https://corita.org/collection>